

UNESCO Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme and UNESCO Flagship Initiatives

WORKSHOP

14 June 2024, 11:00-12:15

WISA Conference 2024, Durban ICC

Introduction

The United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme (UNESCO IHP) is an intergovernmental scientific cooperative programme in water research, water resources management, education and capacity building and it is the only broadly-based science programme of the United Nations (UN) system in this area. It provides opportunities for member states, cooperating professionals and scientific organisations to enhance their understanding of the water cycle, thereby increasing their capacities to manage and develop their water resources better.

The South African National Committee for UNESCO IHP (SANC IHP) is a UNESCO-led activity through the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS). The SANC is chaired by the Deputy Director-General: Water Resources Management (DDG: WRM) who ensures that the IHP activities are sufficiently resourced to function effectively.

Background

The IHP is aimed at addressing national, regional and global water challenges and building a sustainable and resilient society by expanding the scientific understanding of water, improving technical capabilities, and enhancing education. IHP-IX continues to offer a platform and venue to extend cooperation within the international scientific community, and thus contribute to addressing many unsolved problems in hydrology.

The IHP-IX Strategic Plan¹ is positioned within the context of the global water-related policy landscape to provide opportunities of alignment with other initiatives and in contributing to their achievement. The Strategic Plan of IHP-IX has five interrelated and intertwined priority areas and 34 outputs. Under each output, key activities were identified for delivering the expected result. In total 150 key activities are considered under the Operational Implementation Plan.

Objectives

The main objectives of the workshop are to:

- Familiarize the water sector with UNESCO IHP-IX strategy.
- Facilitate contributions from the water sector on implemented and planned activities contributing to implementation of UNESCO IHP-IX (2022 -2029).
- Present practical UNESCO IHP implemented case studies/activities.
- Familiarize the water sector with UNESCO Flagship Initiatives, Benefits and how to register their projects as UNESCO Flagship Initiatives.

¹ <https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000381318>

Draft Programme

Time	Items
Moderated by: Ms Oudi Kgomongwe , Scientific Manager; Coordination and Liaison	
11:00-11:15	Opening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overview of achievements of UNESCO IHP and its importance in ensuring water security (Ms Deborah Mochotlhi, Deputy Director General Water resource Management)
11:15-11:30	Presentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNESCO IHP-IX and inputs on planned and implemented activities ,2022-2029 and reporting process (Ms Oudi Kgomongwe)
11:30-11:35	Examples of implemented UNESCO IHP activities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> [VIDEO] Diamonds on the soles of our Feet
11:35-11:45	Q&A from participants and filling out planned and implemented activities.
11:45-12:00	Presentation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UNESCO Flagship Initiatives & requirements to register projects as UNESCO Flagship Initiatives (Ms Selebaleng Gaebee)
12:00-12:10	Q&A from participants and filling out planned and implemented activities.
12:10 – 12:15	Closing

Workshop Registration

Register in advance for this workshop here <https://forms.office.com/r/mbVxWRehmB> or scan the QR code:

